



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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September 9, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Guard's Battery B, 126th Field Artillery returning from Iraq Saturday

The Wisconsin Army National Guard's Battery B, 126th Field Artillery, Oak Creek, is scheduled to be back in Wisconsin Saturday after serving a year on active duty and nearly 11 months service in Southwest Asia. The unit's 80 soldiers were ordered to active duty September 4, 2004 and deployed to Iraq.

Soldiers will be met by Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, senior National Guard officials, the 132nd Army Band, and their families. Following an initial reunion with their families and a brief official "welcome home," the soldiers will travel to nearby Fort McCoy to begin about five days of demobilization processing.

While in Iraq, the Bravo Battery soldiers provided security in and around Baghdad.

Following redeployment of Battery B, 126th Field Artillery, the Wisconsin Guard will still have about 2,900 soldiers and airmen on active duty. Of those, approximately 1,690 are deployed overseas with more than 1,000 others who are eventually bound for overseas missions. Another 450 Wisconsin National Guard troops are supporting hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana.

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Note to Editors and News Directors: News media are welcome to cover the return of Battery B, 126th Field Artillery late Saturday afternoon on Sept. 10. The unit's flight is expected to arrive at the Volk Field Air National Guard base sometime between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. Volk Field is located in Juneau County off Exit 55 on Interstate Highways 90-94.

Following the aircraft's arrival, soldiers and their families will have about an hour together before the soldiers are bused to Fort McCoy to begin demobilization processing.

News media organizations wishing to cover the Volk Field arrival should call Lt. Col. Tim Donovan (608-242-3050 or Cell 608-516-1777) so arrangements can be made for access to the military installation. News media will not be permitted on the base unless arrangements have been made in advance.

AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL TIME IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

CALL 608-242-3059 FOR UP-TO-THE-MINUTE SCHEDULE CHANGES.

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